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EXAMINER	
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/657,877	GOICOECHEA, JOE F.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	CHAD DICKERSON	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *26 May 2009*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,5,7-16,20,22-36,40 and 43-45* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,5,7-16,20,22-36,40 and 43-45* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *09 September 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see page 12, filed 5/26/2009, with respect to the 101 rejections have been fully considered and are persuasive. The 101 rejections of claims 1, 5 and 7-15 have been withdrawn.

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 5, 7-16, 20, 22-36, 40 and 43-45 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. The claim amendment has necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection. However, the references of Bhatti, Schroath and Garcia are still being applied. When reviewing the claim limitations, the Examiner studied the cited portions in the specification for support for the claim limitations and for a direction for the searching of the asserted undisclosed feature. In the Examiner's search, the reference of Kidani '192 was found to perform the feature of having a timeout being measured from the generation of an error in the system to the execution of automatic error skipping, which involves cancelling a print job. Since the time period of the timeout can be set by a user in the system, the feature of having a user set this time is performed as well[1]. Therefore, with the feature of having the ability to set the time of a timeout period during an error process, the amended claim limitations presented are performed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

[1] See Kidani '192 at col. 14, ll. 15-54 and figure 8.

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 5, 7-16, 20, 22-36, 40 and 43-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bhatti '404 (US Pub No 2003/0065404) in view of Garcia '464 (US Pub No 2003/0112464) and Kidani (USP 6473192).

Re claim 1: Bhatti '404 discloses a computer readable medium having instructions to be executed on a computer for determining if a print job designated as time sensitive has expired following a detected triggering event **(i.e. in the system of Bhatti '404, the user has the option to designate a print job to have an expiration date. If the user designates the print job's expiration date as never, then the print job is considered not to be designated as time sensitive, but if a default expiration date is chosen, which is 30, 60, 90 or 180 days, then the print job is considered to be time sensitive. Also, when looking at the user interface screen, there are known job storage options available, along with the job retention option that is considered as the time sensitive option. If the job retention option is not selected, the print job is not designated as time sensitive. With the software used to provide this option, the determination is made whether or not the job retention option is selected and the date tracker (34) used in the system can be implemented on all the business machines involved in the process in order to determine if a job retention expiration date has expired. The moment the user**

designates the job using the job retention option, this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the designation and the date tracker (34) that can be present on the printer or computer. This is a detectable event and is considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print job is placed on the memory of the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since the print job is detected to be on the printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]) and

purging the print job from a memory upon determining the print job has expired **(i.e. in the system, when the determination, or detection, is made that a print job has expired, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])** and

wherein determining if the print job has expired includes identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])** and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by expiration data included with the print job **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])** and

wherein purging the print job from the memory includes purging the print job **(i.e. in the system, when the determination, or detection, is made that a print job has expired, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to specifically teach wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed from the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. Both the Bhatti reference and the Garcia reference involve printing over a network (same field of endeavor). However, in the system of Garcia, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. With the combination of the features of Bhatti '404 and Garcia '464, above claim feature is performed; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])**

and identifying a time elapsed from the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing. Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error**

occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 and Garcia fails to specifically teach identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction and if the malfunction has not been remedied within the duration.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Kidani '192. Kidani '192 discloses identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction

(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani, the reference discloses identifying the time elapsed after an error occurs within the print system. The system checks to see if this elapsed time exceeds a timeout value; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54) and

if the malfunction has not been remedied within the duration **(i.e. in the system, if the error regarding a print job has not been addressed during a certain timeout period, the user is notified that their print job has been cancelled from the printing system for printing in order to perform other jobs that are stored on the printer's memory can be executed; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)**.

Therefore, in view of Kidani '192, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the features of identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction and if the malfunction has not been remedied within the duration, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, as modified by the features of Garcia '464, in order to prevent stagnation of a succeeding job in the printing system (as stated in Kidani '192 col. 2, ll. 14-18).

Re claim 5: Bhatti '404 discloses a computer readable medium having instructions to be executed on a computer for:

detecting a triggering event **(i.e. the moment the user designates the job using the job retention option, this is detected by the user interface (22) setting**

the designation and the date tracker (34) that can be present on the printer or computer. This is a detectable event and is considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print job is placed on the memory of the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since the print job is detected to be on the printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);

following the detected triggering event, determining if a print job stored in a memory has been designated time sensitive **(i.e. in the system, the user sets the print job to be time sensitive when the print job is determined to stored using the job retention option. Using the job retention option and selecting the default option, this designates the print job to be time sensitive. When the print job is sent to the printer, the printer is able to translate the PJL command designating the print job to be designated as time sensitive, or having an expiration date using the job retention option. The date tracker in the printer or in other devices in the system can also be used to determine if a stored print job is time sensitive, since the trackers are used to determine when a print job is expired. When the printer received the command for the job retention information, the receipt of the command can be considered as detecting a triggering event; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

if the print job has been designated time sensitive, obtaining expiration data for the print job, determining if the print job has expired according to the expiration data, and purging the print job from the memory if the print job has expired **(i.e. in the system, the date tracker is used to obtain expiration data for a job to see if that**

job is designated to be time sensitive, or the job is utilizing the job retention option. When the determination is made that a print job has expired, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);

wherein determining if the print job has expired includes identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])** and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by the obtained expiration data **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to specifically teach wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. Both the**

Bhatti reference and the Garcia reference involve printing over a network (same field of endeavor). However, in the system of Garcia, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. With the combination of the features of Bhatti '404 and Garcia '464, above claim feature is performed; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])

and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing. Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).**

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of wherein the detected

triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 and Garcia '464 wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the memory once the malfunction is detected.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Kidani '192. Kidani '192 discloses wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the memory once the malfunction is detected **(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani '192, the reference discloses identifying the time elapsed after an error occurs within the print system. The system checks to see if this elapsed time exceeds a timeout value that is set in the system. The timeout value set can be considered analogous to the expiration data since it is how long the data is to be held in the printing system for printing until it is cancelled once an error has been detected; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)**.

Therefore, in view of Kidani '192, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the features of wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the memory once the malfunction is

detected, incorporated in the device of Bhatti ‘404, as modified by the features of Garcia ‘464, in order to prevent stagnation of a succeeding job in the printing system (as stated in Kidani ‘192 col. 2, ll. 14-18).

Re claim 7: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 and Kidani ‘192 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 5, wherein the memory is a printer memory and wherein:

the instructions for obtaining expiration data include instructions for obtaining expiration data relating to a duration that the print job is to be held in the printer memory **(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the printer memory. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job from the printer memory **(i.e. once the system realizes that a print job has reached or is beyond the expiration point set for the print job, this print job is automatically deleted from the storage device storing the print job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach obtaining expiration data following the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses obtaining expiration data following the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this to the obtained time T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of obtaining expiration data following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).**

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of obtaining expiration data following the malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

Re claim 8: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 are disclosed above. Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 5, wherein the memory is a queue and wherein:

the instructions for obtaining expiration data include instructions for obtaining expiration data relating to a duration that the print job is to be held in the queue **(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the MFP storage device. Since the MFPs (14) can be used as business machines that store print job data, the storage device on the MFP can be considered as the queue, since a queue is basically a FIFO storage device. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job from the queue **(i.e. once the system realizes that a print job has reached or is beyond the expiration point set for the print job, this print job is automatically deleted from the storage device of the MFP storing the print job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti ‘404 fails to teach obtaining expiration data following the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia ‘464. Garcia ‘464 discloses obtaining expiration data following the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia ‘464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this to the obtained time T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of obtaining expiration data following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia ‘464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).**

Therefore, in view of Garcia ‘464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of obtaining expiration data following the malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti ‘404, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

Re claim 9: Bhatti '404 discloses a computer readable medium having instructions to be executed on a computer for:

presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data **(i.e. the MFP (14) is presented with the user interface that gives the user the option to designate a job with the job retention option. This option is used to designate when a print job should be deleted from the storage device the job is held, which is considered as designating a print job to be time sensitive. The job retention option sets or specifies an expiration date for the print job, which is considered as expiration data; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

if so selected through the interface, designating the print job as time sensitive and including expiration data with the print job **(i.e. if the option of job retention is selected, the user also designates the actual expiration date for the print job. Once the expiration date is set, this is sent with the print job to the storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]),**

the expiration date indicating a duration as specified by a user for holding the print job in a memory **(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the printer memory. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]),** the time sensitive designation indicating that

the print job is to be purged from the memory upon identifying that a time elapsed exceeds the duration included in the expiration data **(i.e. in the system, when the determination, or detection, is made by the date tracker that a print job has expired due to the expiration date, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. The feature of above is performed by first designating the job retention option in order to set the print job as time sensitive in figure 3 (see element 30). This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document and translating the instructions into a print job, a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction, following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document **(i.e. the reference of Garcia discloses a sender subsystem that is installed on a job sender's computer. The printer driver installed on the computer is able to be selected for printing a document; see fig 1; paragraphs [0022]-[0031])**;

translating the instructions into a print job **(i.e. the instructions received from the application on the computer are translated into a format to generate print files for a print job; see fig. 1; paragraphs [0022]-[0034]),**

following a detection of a malfunction **(i.e. once the print job is detected to be in an error state (see step 78 in figure 3(b)), the T1 time in the system is still being measured to see if print job expiration is about to occur. Once in error state, the system's receiver is placed back at step 46 is figure 3(a), where the receiver has to accept the print job again or, in some manner, fix the error. During this process, the T1 is still being measured and the system can reach the threshold of the T1 counter after the error has been found in the system. Therefore, with the above situation, the feature of purging a print job following a detection of a malfunction is performed. The T1 period is given to notify the system that this is the amount of time, or threshold, that has to be exceeded before the print job is deleted from the system; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0076])** that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. The combination of Bhatti '404 with the features of Garcia '464 performs the above feature of the claims; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])**

and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network**

printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the features of receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document and translating the instructions into a print job, following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the combination of the device of Bhatti '404, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 and Garcia fails to specifically teach identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Kidani '192. Kidani '192 discloses identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani, the reference discloses identifying the time elapsed after an error occurs within the print system. The system checks to see if this elapsed time exceeds a timeout value; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)**.

Therefore, in view of Kidani '192, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the features of identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, as modified by the features of Garcia '464, in order to prevent stagnation of a succeeding job in the printing system (as stated in Kidani '192 col. 2, ll. 14-18).

Re claim 10: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 and Kidani '192 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 9, wherein the memory is a printer memory **(i.e. the storage device (20) can be physically located on the printer (18); see paragraph [0021])** and the duration is a first duration and wherein the instructions for presenting include instructions for presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data **(i.e. with the use of the user interface shown in figure 2, the user is able to**

designate a print job as time sensitive through the job retention option and to specify an expiration date, considered as expiration data, for the print job stored in a storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]) relating to the first duration for holding the print job in the printer memory **(i.e. since the printer and the MFPs have different storage devices, these devices can be considered to have their own expiration dates, or duration of holding the print jobs. With the printer memory, the print job can be held in a default manner of 30 days in the job retention option and in the MFP, the job can be held in a manner of 60 days until the print jobs expire and are deleted from both respective memories; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])** and a second duration for holding the print job in a queue prior to the print job being delivered from the queue to the printer memory **(i.e. since both the MFP (14) and the printer can both have storage devices and user interfaces, expiration data can be set in both the printer and the MFP. The setting of the holding of a print job in the MFP can be before the actual print job is sent from an MFP to a printer in the system. Also, a second duration, considered as the new expiration, can be set in the system to renew job storage options with the print job; see paragraphs [0021]-[0029])**.

Re claim 11: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs having instructions to be executed on a computer for:

a print job stored in a memory **(i.e. in Bhatti '404, the print job is stored in a storage device present on several devices; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

determining if the print job has expired **(i.e. using the date tracker, the system determines if the print job is expire be utilizing the job retention expiration date set. This is performed in figure 2; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])** and

if the print job has expired, purging the print job from the memory **(i.e. the system automatically deletes the stored print job if the expiration date for the print job is met or exceeded by the current time read by the date tracker; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]),**

wherein determining if the print job has expired includes obtaining expiration data included with the print job, identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job. The system allows for the expiration date to be obtained when comparing this information to the current time in the system is performed by the date tracker (34); see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027]),** and determining the print job as expired if the duration has exceeded a duration indicated by the obtained expiration data **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time**

has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027]).

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach identifying a malfunction that prevents a print job stored in a memory from being delivered to or printed by a printer and upon identifying the malfunction, identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses identifying a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, a print job stored in a memory from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. Both the Bhatti reference and the Garcia reference involve printing over a network (same field of endeavor). However, in the system of Garcia, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])** and upon identifying the malfunction **(i.e. in the system, an error occurs in the system where the print job is not successfully delivered to the receiving part of the system, which includes both a receiving computer and a printing device. When an error occurs of this type, the printer is prevented from receiving or printing the image data for printing. This is an example of identifying the malfunction in the system; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076]),**

identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing. Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a**

print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the instructions of identifying a malfunction that prevents a print job stored in a memory from being delivered to or printed by a printer and upon identifying the malfunction and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, in order to identify errors in sending the print job information from the server to the receiving device (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0069]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 and Garcia '464 fails to specifically teach a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction as a malfunction duration, and determining the print job as expired if the malfunction duration has exceeded a duration indicated.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Kidani '192. Kidani '192 discloses a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction as a malfunction duration **(i.e. in the system, the timeout associated with the error that is set can be considered as the malfunction duration since this time is measured following the detection of an error; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)**, and

determining the print job as expired if the malfunction duration has exceeded a duration indicated **(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani '192, the system discloses setting a time that may be elapsed before the print job is considered as expired, or terminated. The time detected after the error can be considered as an error timeout, or malfunction duration, that the system determines as exceeded or not and terminates the job if this error timeout is exceeded; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)**.

Therefore, in view of Kidani '192, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the features of a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction as a malfunction duration, and determining the print job as expired if the malfunction duration has exceeded a duration indicated, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, as modified by the features of Garcia '464, in order to prevent stagnation of a succeeding job in the printing system (as stated in Kidani '192 col. 2, ll. 14-18).

Re claim 12: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 are disclosed above. Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 11 having further instructions for determining if the print job has been designated as a time sensitive **(i.e. in the system, the user sets the print job to be time sensitive when the print job is determined to stored using the job retention option. Using the job retention option and selecting the default option, this designates the print job to be time sensitive. When the print job is sent to the printer, the printer is able to translate the PJL command designating the print job to be designated as time sensitive, or having an expiration date using the job retention option. The date tracker in the printer or in other devices in the system can also be used to determine if a stored print job is time sensitive, since the trackers are used to determine when a print job is expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**, and wherein the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job only if it has been designated as a time sensitive print job **(i.e. in the system, the date tracker is used to obtain expiration data for a job to see if that job is designated to be time sensitive, or the job is utilizing the job retention option. When the determination is made that a print job has expired, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 13: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 11 wherein the memory is a queue and wherein the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job from the queue **(i.e. since the storage device can be placed on the MFP (14), the MFP with the storage device is considered as the queue. Once the data tracker tracks that a print job is at or beyond the expiration date that was set during the job retention option, the job is deleted from the storage device of the MFP. The instructions are given from the computer program product used in the device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 14: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 are disclosed above. Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 11 wherein the memory is a printer memory and wherein the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job from the printer memory **(i.e. when the date tracker tracks that a print job stored on the printer memory device is expired, the print job is deleted from the printer memory. The instructions are given from the computer program product used in the device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 15: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 are disclosed above. Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 11 having further instructions for notifying a user if the print job has been purged **(i.e. the user can be notified of the expiration and deletion of the print job by the user interface (22) or on the user's computer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 16: Bhatti '404 discloses a method for purging a print job, comprising,

detecting a triggering event **(i.e. the moment the user designates the job using the job retention option, this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the designation and the date tracker (34) that can be present on the printer or computer. This is a detectable event and is considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print job is placed on the memory of the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since the print job is detected to be on the printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);**

determining if a print job designated as time sensitive has expired following a triggering event **(i.e. in the system of Bhatti '404, the user has the option to designate a print job to have an expiration date. If the user designates the print job's expiration date as never, then the print job is considered not to be designated as time sensitive, but if a default expiration date is chosen, which is 30, 60, 90 or 180 days, then the print job is considered to be time sensitive. Also, when looking at the user interface screen, there are known job storage options available, along with the job retention option that is considered as the time sensitive option. If the job retention option is not selected, the print job is not designated as time sensitive. With the software used to provide this option, the determination is made whether or not the job retention option is selected and the date tracker (34) used in the system can be implemented on all the business machines involved in the process in order to determine if a job retention**

expiration date has expired. The moment the user designates the job using the job retention option, this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the designation and the date tracker (34) that can be present on the printer or computer. This is a detectable event and is considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print job is placed on the memory of the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since the print job is detected to be on the printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]) and

purging the print job from a memory upon determining the print job has expired **(i.e. in the system, when the determination is made that a print job has expired, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**, and

wherein the determining if the print job has expired includes identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])** and

determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by expiration data included with the print job **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027]),**

wherein purging the print job from the memory includes purging the print job **(i.e. in the system, when the determination, or detection, is made that a print job has expired, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed from the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. With the combination of the features of Bhatti '404 and Garcia '464, above claim feature is performed; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])**,

and identifying a time elapsed from the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back**

at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method step of wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction in order to have an error in sending information from a server to a receiving device in the system (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0069]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 and Garcia fails to specifically teach identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction and if the malfunction has not been remedied within the duration.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Kidani '192. Kidani '192 discloses identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the**

system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani, the reference discloses identifying the time elapsed after an error occurs within the print system. The system checks to see if this elapsed time exceeds a timeout value; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54) and

if the malfunction has not been remedied within the duration **(i.e. in the system, if the error regarding a print job has not been addressed during a certain timeout period, the user is notified that their print job has been cancelled from the printing system for printing in order to perform other jobs that are stored on the printer's memory can be executed; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)**.

Therefore, in view of Kidani '192, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the features of identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction and if the malfunction has not been remedied within the duration, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, as modified by the features of Garcia '464, in order to prevent stagnation of a succeeding job in the printing system (as stated in Kidani '192 col. 2, ll. 14-18).

Re claim 20: Bhatti '404 discloses a method for purging a print job, comprising:

detecting a triggering event **(i.e. the moment the user designates the job using the job retention option, this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the designation and the date tracker (34) that can be present on the printer or computer. This is a detectable event and is considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print job is placed on the memory of the printer, this is considered**

as a triggering event since the print job is detected to be on the printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);

determining if a print job stored in a memory has been designated time sensitive **(i.e. in the system, the user sets the print job to be time sensitive when the print job is determined to stored using the job retention option. Using the job retention option and selecting the default option, this designates the print job to be time sensitive. When the print job is sent to the printer, the printer is able to translate the PJL command designating the print job to be designated as time sensitive, or having an expiration date using the job retention option. The date tracker in the printer or in other devices in the system can also be used to determine if a stored print job is time sensitive, since the trackers are used to determine when a print job is expired. When the printer received the command for the job retention information, the receipt of the command can be considered as detecting a triggering event; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

if the print job has been designated time sensitive and a detected triggering event has occurred, obtaining expiration data included with the print job, determining if the print job has expired according to the expiration data, and, if the print job has expired, purging the print job from the memory **(i.e. in the system, the date tracker is used to obtain expiration data for a job to see if that job is designated to be time sensitive, or the job is utilizing the job retention option. When the determination is made that a print job has expired, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. This performs the feature of**

purging a print job from memory once the print job is determined to be expired. Also, when the storage device of the printer detects a print job for receipt and detects the job retention data by the data tracker, this is considered to be a triggering event, since the printer and the printer components detect an event; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]); and

wherein the determining if the print job has expired includes identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])** and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by the obtained expiration data **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the**

system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. With the combination of the features of Bhatti '404 and Garcia '464, above claim feature is performed; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076]),

and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077])**.

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method step of wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print

job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction in order to have an error in sending information from a server to a receiving device in the system (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0069]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 and Garcia '464 wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the memory once the malfunction is detected.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Kidani '192. Kidani '192 discloses wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the memory once the malfunction is detected **(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani '192, the reference discloses identifying the time elapsed after an error occurs within the print system. The system checks to see if this elapsed time exceeds a timeout value that is set in the system. The timeout value set can be considered analogous to the expiration data since it is how long the data is to be held in the printing system for printing until it is cancelled once an error has been detected; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)**.

Therefore, in view of Kidani '192, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the features of wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the memory once the malfunction is detected, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, as modified by the features of Garcia

‘464, in order to prevent stagnation of a succeeding job in the printing system (as stated in Kidani ‘192 col. 2, ll. 14-18).

Re claim 22: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 are disclosed above. Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 20, wherein the memory is a printer memory and wherein:

obtaining expiration data comprises obtaining expiration data relating to a duration that the print job is to be held in the printer memory **(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the printer memory. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

purging comprises purging the print job from the printer memory **(i.e. once the system realizes that a print job has reached or is beyond the expiration point set for the print job, this print job is automatically deleted from the storage device storing the print job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti ‘404 fails to teach obtaining expiration data following the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia ‘464. Garcia ‘464 discloses obtaining expiration data following the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia**

is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this to the obtained time T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of obtaining expiration data following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of obtaining expiration data following the malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

Re claim 23: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 are disclosed above. Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 20, wherein the memory is a queue and wherein:

obtaining expiration data comprises obtaining expiration data relating to a duration that the print job is to be held in the queue **(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the MFP storage device. Since the MFPs (14) can be used as business machines that store print job data, the storage device on the MFP can be considered as the queue, since a queue is basically a FIFO storage device. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

purging comprise purging the print job from the queue **(i.e. once the system realizes that a print job has reached or is beyond the expiration point set for the print job, this print job is automatically deleted from the storage device of the MFP storing the print job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach obtaining expiration data following the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses obtaining expiration data following the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92**

in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this to the obtained time T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of obtaining expiration data following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of obtaining expiration data following the malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

Re claim 24: Bhatti '404 discloses a method for designating a print job as time sensitive, comprising:

presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data **(i.e. the MFP (14) is presented with the user interface that gives the user the option to designate a job with the job retention option. This option is used to designate when a print job should be deleted from the storage device the job is held, which is considered as**

designating a print job to be time sensitive. The job retention option sets or specifies an expiration date for the print job, which is considered as expiration data; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]); and

if so selected through the interface, designating the print job as time sensitive and including expiration data with the print job **(i.e. if the option of job retention is selected, the user also designates the actual expiration date for the print job. Once the expiration date is set, this is sent with the print job to the storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]),**

the expiration date indicating a duration as specified by a user for holding the print job in a memory **(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the printer memory. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]),** the time sensitive designation indicating that the print job is to be purged from the memory upon identifying that a time elapsed exceeds the duration included in the expiration data **(i.e. in the system, when the determination, or detection, is made by the date tracker that a print job has expired due to the expiration date, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. The feature of above is performed by first designating the job retention option in order to set the print job as time sensitive in figure 3 (see element 30). This performs the feature of purging a print**

job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document and translating the instructions into a print job, a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document **(i.e. the reference of Garcia discloses a sender subsystem that is installed on a job sender's computer. The printer driver installed on the computer is able to be selected for printing a document; see fig 1; paragraphs [0022]-[0031])**;

translating the instructions into a print job **(i.e. the instructions received from the application on the computer are translated into a format to generate print files for a print job; see fig. 1; paragraphs [0022]-[0034]),**

following a detection of a malfunction **(i.e. once the print job is detected to be in an error state (see step 78 in figure 3(b)), the T1 time in the system is still being measured to see if print job expiration is about to occur. Once in error state, the system's receiver is placed back at step 46 is figure 3(a), where the receiver has to accept the print job again or, in some manner, fix the error. During this process, the T1 is still being measured and the system can reach the threshold of the T1 counter after the error has been found in the system. Therefore, with the**

above situation, the feature of purging a print job following a detection of a malfunction is performed. The T1 period is given to notify the system that this is the amount of time, or threshold, that has to be exceeded before the print job is deleted from the system; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0076]) that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. The combination of Bhatti '404 with the features of Garcia '464 performs the above features of the claim; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076]),**

and identifying that a time elapsed from the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the**

features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method steps of receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document and translating the instructions into a print job, following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the combination of the device of Bhatti '404, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 and Garcia fails to specifically teach identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Kidani '192. Kidani '192 discloses identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani, the reference discloses identifying the time elapsed after an error occurs within the print system. The system checks to see if this elapsed time exceeds a timeout value; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)**.

Therefore, in view of Kidani '192, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the features of identifying a time

elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, as modified by the features of Garcia '464, in order to prevent stagnation of a succeeding job in the printing system (as stated in Kidani '192 col. 2, ll. 14-18).

Re claim 25: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 and Kidani '192 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 24, wherein the memory is a printer memory **(i.e. in the system, the storage device can be located in the printer device (18); see paragraph [0021])** and the duration is a first duration and wherein presenting comprises presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data **(i.e. with the use of the user interface shown in figure 2, the user is able to designate a print job as time sensitive through the job retention option and to specify an expiration date, considered as expiration data, for the print job stored in a storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])** relating to the first duration for holding the print job in the printer memory **(i.e. since the printer and the MFPs have different storage devices, these devices can be considered to have their own expiration dates, or duration of holding the print jobs. With the printer memory, the print job can be held in a default manner of 30 days in the job retention option and in the MFP, the job can be held in a manner of 60 days until the print jobs expire and are deleted from both respective memories; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])** and a second duration for holding the print job in a queue prior to the print job being delivered

from the queue to the printer memory **(i.e. since both the MFP (14) and the printer can both have storage devices and user interfaces, expiration data can be set in both the printer and the MFP. The setting of the holding of a print job in the MFP can be before the actual print job is sent from an MFP to a printer in the system. Also, a second duration, considered as the new expiration, can be set in the system to renew job storage options with the print job; see paragraphs [0021]-[0029])**.

Re claim 26: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs, comprising:

a print job stored in a memory **(i.e. in Bhatti '404, the print job is stored in a storage device present on several devices; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

determining if the stored print job has expired **(i.e. using the date tracker, the system determines if the print job is expire be utilizing the job retention expiration date set. This is performed in figure 2; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

if the print job has expired, purging the print job from the memory **(i.e. the system automatically deletes the stored print job if the expiration date for the print job is met or exceeded by the current time read by the date tracker; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);**

wherein determining if the print job has expired includes obtaining expiration data included with the print job, identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job. The system allows for the expiration date to be obtained when comparing this information to the current time in the system is performed by the date tracker (34); see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027]),** and determining if the print job as expired if the duration has exceeded a duration indicated by the obtained expiration data **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])**.

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 fails to specifically teach a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents a print job stored from being delivered to or printed by a printer.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses identifying a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents a print job stored in a memory from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])** and upon identifying the

malfunction **(i.e. in the system, an error occurs in the system where the print job is not successfully delivered to the receiving part of the system, which includes both a receiving computer and a printing device. When an error occurs of this type, the printer is prevented from receiving or printing the image data for printing. This is an example of identifying the malfunction in the system. The features of Bhatti '404 with the combination of the features of Garcia '464, the above claim feature is performed; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076]),**

and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).**

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method steps of identifying a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents a print job stored in a memory from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction in order to identify errors in sending the print job information from the server to the receiving device (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0069]).

However, the combination of Bhatti ‘404 and Garcia ‘464 fails to specifically teach a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction as a malfunction duration, and determining the print job as expired if the malfunction duration has exceeded a duration indicated.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Kidani ‘192. Kidani ‘192 discloses a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction as a malfunction duration **(i.e. in the system, the timeout associated with the error that is set can be considered as the malfunction duration since this time is measured following the detection of an error; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)**, and

determining the print job as expired if the malfunction duration has exceeded a duration indicated **(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani '192, the system discloses setting a time that may be elapsed before the print job is considered as expired, or terminated. The time detected after the error can be considered as an error timeout, or malfunction duration, that the system determines as exceeded**

or not and terminates the job if this error timeout is exceeded; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54).

Therefore, in view of Kidani '192, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the features of a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction as a malfunction duration, and determining the print job as expired if the malfunction duration has exceeded a duration indicated, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, as modified by the features of Garcia '464, in order to prevent stagnation of a succeeding job in the printing system (as stated in Kidani '192 col. 2, ll. 14-18).

Re claim 27: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 and Kidani '192 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 26 further comprises:

determining if the print job has been designated as time sensitive **(i.e. in the system, the user sets the print job to be time sensitive when the print job is determined to stored using the job retention option. Using the job retention option and selecting the default option, this designates the print job to be time sensitive. When the print job is sent to the printer, the printer is able to translate the PJL command designating the print job to be designated as time sensitive, or having an expiration date using the job retention option. The date tracker in the printer or in other devices in the system can also be used to determine if a stored**

print job is time sensitive, since the trackers are used to determine when a print job is expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]); and

purging the print job only if it has been designated as a time sensitive print job **(i.e. in the system, the date tracker is used to obtain expiration data for a job to see if that job is designated to be time sensitive, or the job is utilizing the job retention option. When the determination is made that a print job has expired, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 28: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Garcia '464 and Kidani '192 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 26 wherein the memory is a queue, and wherein purging the print job includes purging the print job from the queue **(i.e. since the storage device can be placed on the MFP (14), the MFP with the storage device is considered as the queue. Once the data tracker tracks that a print job is at or beyond the expiration date that was set during the job retention option, the job is deleted from the storage device of the MFP. The instructions are given from the computer program product used in the device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 29: The teachings of Bhatti ‘404 in view of Garcia ‘464 and Kidani ‘192 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 26, wherein the memory is a printer memory, and wherein purging the expired print job includes purging the expired print job from the printer memory **(i.e. when the date tracker tracks that a print job stored on the printer memory device is expired, the print job is deleted from the printer memory. The instructions are given from the computer program product used in the device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 30: The teachings of Bhatti ‘404 in view of Garcia ‘464 and Kidani ‘192 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 26, further comprising notifying a user that the print job has been purged **(i.e. the user can be notified of the expiration and deletion of the print job by the user interface (22) or on the user’s computer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 31: Bhatti '404 discloses a method for purging a print job, comprising:

designating the print job as a time sensitive print job **(i.e. in the system of Bhatti '404, the user has the option to designate a print job to have an expiration date. If the user designates the print job’s expiration date as never, then the print job is considered not to be designated as time sensitive, but if a default expiration date is chosen, which is 30, 60, 90 or 180 days, then the print job is considered to be**

time sensitive. Also, when looking at the user interface screen, there are known job storage options available, along with the job retention option that is considered as the time sensitive option. If the job retention option is not selected, the print job is not designated as time sensitive; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);

including expiration data in the print job, the expiration data indicating a duration of how long the print job is to be held **(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the printer memory. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

queuing the time sensitive print job **(i.e. in the system, the print job designated to be stored using the job retention option is considered to be a time sensitive print job. This print job is stored, or queued, in the respective MFP device or some other location that stores the print jobs; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

identifying a first time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job. The system allows for the expiration date to be obtained when comparing this**

information to the current time in the system is performed by the date tracker (34); see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027]); and

purging the time sensitive print job from the queue if the identified first elapsed time exceeds the duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job **(i.e. if the print job has a set expiration date and is not deleted before the expiration date, the print job is then deleted once the expiration date is exceeded by the current time in the system; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 fails to specifically teach detecting a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the time sensitive print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses detecting a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the time sensitive print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. The print job is considered to be time sensitive since timers T1 and T2 in the system are placed on the print job after certain steps occur in the process of printing the print job. After these timers T1 and T2 are elapsed, the print job is purged because of the expiration of the time periods. The features of Bhatti '404 combined with the features of Garcia '464 performs the claim feature above; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0076]);**

and identifying a first time elapsed from the detection of the first malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077])**.

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method step of detecting a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the time sensitive print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a first time elapsed following the detection of the first malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, in order for the system to indicate an error when an error occurs in sending information from the server to the receiving device (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0069]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 and Garcia fails to specifically teach indicating a duration of how long the print job is to be held once a malfunction is detected, identifying a first time elapsed as measured from the detection of the first malfunction and if the malfunction has not been remedied within the duration.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Kidani '192. Kidani '192 discloses indicating a duration of how long the print job is to be held once a malfunction is detected **(i.e. in the system of Kidani, the setting means for the cancellation timeout sets a timeout value for a duration of how long a print job is to be held in the printing system after an error has occurred. Once this duration is exceeded, the job is cancelled; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54);**

identifying a first time elapsed as measured from the detection of the first malfunction **(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani, the reference discloses identifying the time elapsed after an error occurs within the print system. The system checks to see if this elapsed time exceeds a timeout value; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)** and

if the malfunction has not been remedied within the duration **(i.e. in the system, if the error regarding a print job has not been addressed during a certain timeout period, the user is notified that their print job has been cancelled from the printing system for printing in order to perform other jobs that are stored on the printer's memory can be executed; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)**.

Therefore, in view of Kidani ‘192, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the features of indicating a duration of how long the print job is to be held once a malfunction is detected, identifying a first time elapsed as measured from the detection of the first malfunction and if the malfunction has not been remedied within the duration, incorporated in the device of Bhatti ‘404, as modified by the features of Garcia ‘464, in order to prevent stagnation of a succeeding job in the printing system (as stated in Kidani ‘192 col. 2, ll. 14-18).

Re claim 32: The teachings of Bhatti ‘404 in view of Garcia ‘464 and Kidani ‘192 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 31, wherein the duration is a first duration and the expiration data further indicates a second duration **(i.e. when the user is able to renew the job storage options and set a new expiration date (30), this is considered as having the expiration date reflect a second duration for the print job to be held; see paragraph [0027])**, the method further comprising:

sending the time sensitive print job from the queue to a printer memory **(i.e. in Bhatti '404, the print jobs that are designated by the job retention option can be sent to the printer memory, or any other memory used in the system from the MFP, which also contains a storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

purging the printer memory of the time sensitive print job from the printer memory if the second elapsed time exceeds the second duration indicated by the expiration data

included with the print job **(i.e. the print job in the printer memory that is designated by the job retention option as having an expiration date, is deleted once the expiration date is reached or exceeded. The expiration date can be considered the set time the print job is deleted within. Also, shown in paragraph [0027] is another aspect of the invention that allows a user to setup a new expiration date, considered as second expiration data or second duration. The new time that is now compared to the new expiration data is considered as the second time that is being elapsed as the print job is being stored in the storage that can be physically located in the printer (18). With the new expiration date being compared to the next round of elapsed time, if the user's job approaches or exceeds this new expiration date, the job is deleted from the memory; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach detecting a second malfunction that prevents the time sensitive print job in the printer memory from being printed and identifying a second time elapsed following the detection of the first malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Kidani '192. Kidani '192 discloses detecting a second malfunction that prevents the time sensitive print job in the printer memory from being printed **(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani, the reference discloses detecting different errors that can occur within the printing system and whom to notify. With the system able to detect the errors**

that occur within the system, if the printer cancels one job that was in an error condition to perform another succeeding job, if the succeeding job becomes in error state also then the process of error releasing is performed again. Therefore, the system detects a second error that prevents the print job in the memory from being printed. The job is time sensitive with the combination of Bhatti, but the job is also time sensitive when the error releasing timeout is configured in the system to cancel a job after a certain time has elapsed; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54);

identifying a second time elapsed as measured from the detection of the first malfunction **(i.e. in the system, a second setting means is used to set a second time that is detected following the detection of a first malfunction and this second time is identified as a timeout to determine whether cancel information is sent back to the transfer source of the cancelled print job. Once the system detects that this timeout has elapsed or has been exceeded, the cancellation notice is transmitted; see col. 2, ll. 55-col. 3, ll. 17)**.

Therefore, in view of Kidani '192, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method steps of detecting a second malfunction that prevents the time sensitive print job in the printer memory from being printed and identifying a second time elapsed following the detection of the first malfunction in order to prevent stagnation of a succeeding job in the printing system (as stated in Kidani '192 col. 2, ll. 14-18).

Re claim 33: The teachings of Bhatti ‘404 in view of Garcia ‘464 and Kidani ‘192 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 31, further comprising notifying a user if the print job has been purged **(i.e. the user can be notified of the expiration and deletion of the print job by the user interface (22) or on the user’s computer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

Re claim 34: The teachings of Bhatti ‘404 in view of Garcia ‘464 and Kidani ‘192 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 31, further comprising associating expiration data with the time sensitive print job **(i.e. when a user has designated a print job to be a job retention job, the user associates an expiration date, or data, with the print job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**, and using the expiration data to determine if the time sensitive print job has expired, and wherein purging comprises purging the time sensitive print job only if it has expired **(i.e. the system automatically deletes the stored print job if the expiration date for the print job is met or exceeded by the current time read by the date tracker. The date tracker uses the expiration date, or data, to determine if a print job has expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach after detecting the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Kidani ‘192. Kidani ‘192 discloses after detecting the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Kidani contains a**

detection unit that is able to detect the errors of the printing system; see figs. 2-5, col. 11, ll. 3-col. 12, ll. 60).

Therefore, in view of Kidani '192, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method step of after detecting the malfunction in order to prevent stagnation of a succeeding job in the printing system (as stated in Kidani '192 col. 2, ll. 14-18).

Re claim 35: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs, comprising:

of allowing a user to designate the print job as time sensitive and to specify and include expiration data with the print job **(i.e. the MFP (14) is presented with the user interface that gives the user the option to designate a job with the job retention option. This option is used to designate when a print job should be deleted from the storage device the job is held, which is considered as designating a print job to be time sensitive. The job retention option sets or specifies an expiration date for the print job, which is considered as expiration data; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

wherein the expiration date indicates a duration as specified by a user for holding the print job in a memory **(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the printer memory. The computer program product used in the invention**

can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]), the time sensitive designation indicating that the print job is to be purged from the memory upon identifying that a time elapsed exceeds the duration included in the expiration data **(i.e. in the system, when the determination, or detection, is made by the date tracker that a print job has expired due to the expiration date, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. The feature of above is performed by first designating the job retention option in order to set the print job as time sensitive in figure 3 (see element 30). This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach an application capable of instructing an electronic document to be printed and a driver capable of translating printing instructions from an application into a print job, following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer, identifying that a time elapsed from the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses an application capable of instructing an electronic document to be printed **(i.e. the reference of Garcia discloses a sender subsystem that is installed on a job sender's computer. The printer driver installed on the computer is able to be selected for printing a document; see fig 1; paragraphs [0022]-[0031])**; and

a driver capable of translating printing instructions from an application into a print job **(i.e. the instructions received from the application on the computer are translated into a format to generate print files for a print job; see fig. 1; paragraphs [0022]-[0034])**,

following a detection of a malfunction **(i.e. once the print job is detected to be in an error state (see step 78 in figure 3(b)), the T1 time in the system is still being measured to see if print job expiration is about to occur. Once in error state, the system's receiver is placed back at step 46 is figure 3(a), where the receiver has to accept the print job again or, in some manner, fix the error. During this process, the T1 is still being measured and the system can reach the threshold of the T1 counter after the error has been found in the system. Therefore, with the above situation, the feature of purging a print job following a detection of a malfunction is performed; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0076])** that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. The combination of Bhatti '404 with the features of Garcia '464 performs the claim feature; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])**,

identifying that a time elapsed from the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the**

time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method steps of an application capable of instructing an electronic document to be printed and a driver capable of translating printing instructions from an application into a print job, following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying that a time elapsed from the detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the combination of the device of Bhatti '404, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 and Garcia fails to specifically teach identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Kidani '192. Kidani '192 discloses identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani, the reference discloses identifying the time elapsed after an error occurs within the print system. The system checks to see if this elapsed time exceeds a timeout value; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)**.

Therefore, in view of Kidani '192, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the features of identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, as modified by the features of Garcia '464, in order to prevent stagnation of a succeeding job in the printing system (as stated in Kidani '192 col. 2, ll. 14-18).

Re claim 36: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs, comprising:

a queue for temporarily holding a print job **(i.e. with a queue being used to store information to be processed later, any storage device used in the system can be used as a queue. The storage device on the MFP is considered to be a queue and this can hold print jobs temporarily since the print jobs have an expiration date designated for them; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**; and

a queue manager capable of detecting a triggering event, determining, upon detection of a triggering event, if the print job held in the queue is time sensitive, and, if time sensitive, determining if the print job has expired, and purging the print job from the queue if the time sensitive print job has expired **(i.e. the date tracker can be considered as the queue manger since it performs the feature of determining if the print job held in the queue is a job retention job, considered as a time sensitive job, and also determines based on the current time if the print job is expired. The date tracker ensures that if a print job is expired, the print job is deleted from the storage device that stores the print job. The moment the user designates the job using the job retention option, this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the designation and the date tracker (34) that can be present on the printer or MFP. This is a detectable event and is considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print job is placed on the memory of the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since the print job is detected to be on the printer's storage device. Both examples can be set on the MFP, considered as the server device and after the setting of the expiration date on the MFP, the date tracker can determine if the print job held is expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0029]);**

wherein the queue manager is operable to determine if the print job has expired by identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job; see fig. 3; paragraphs**

[0022]-[0027]) and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])**.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device With the combination of the features of Bhatti '404 and Garcia '464, above claim feature is performed; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])**

and identifying a time elapsed from the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the**

time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction in order to have an error in sending information from a server to a receiving device in the system (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0069]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 and Garcia '464 identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction and wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the queue once the malfunction is detected.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Kidani '192. Kidani '192 discloses identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction

(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani, the reference discloses identifying the time elapsed after an error occurs within the print system. The system checks to see if this elapsed time exceeds a timeout value; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54) and

wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the queue once the malfunction is detected **(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani '192, the reference discloses identifying the time elapsed after an error occurs within the print system. The system checks to see if this elapsed time exceeds a timeout value that is set in the system. The timeout value set can be considered analogous to the expiration data since it is how long the data is to be held in the printing system for printing until it is cancelled once an error has been detected; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)**.

Therefore, in view of Kidani '192, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the features of identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction and wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the queue once the malfunction is detected, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, as modified by the features of Garcia

‘464, in order to prevent stagnation of a succeeding job in the printing system (as stated in Kidani ‘192 col. 2, ll. 14-18).

Re claim 40: Bhatti '404 discloses an image forming device, comprising:

a print engine capable of printing information on print media **(i.e. in all printers, there are printer engines that are used to print information on print media. It is understood that since Bhatti '404 uses a printer in the system, it also has a print engine capable of printing information; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

a memory manager capable of storing a print job in a memory, routing the print job from the memory to the print engine, and purging the print job from the memory **(i.e. in the system, the printer is able to store a print job in the storage device in the printer or MFP, the printer is also able to route a print job on the memory to the printer engine of the printer for printing, since an electronic document that is stored can be reviewed at a user interface on the printer and printed in hard copy form. Also, since the printer is able to have a date tracker on the device, the printer is able to delete print jobs from the memory once the expiration date of a print job is reached or exceeded by the system. Although a memory manger is not specifically disclosed, the features of the memory manager are performed by the invention; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0002]-[0007] and [0019]-[0028])**; and

a recovery feature capable of detecting a triggering event, identifying whether the print job held in the memory is time sensitive, and, if time sensitive and if a triggering event has been detected, determining if the print job has expired, and instructing the memory manager to purge the print job from the memory if the time sensitive print job

has expired **(i.e. in the system, the determination of the print job being designated by the job retention option, is performed by the date tracker used on the MFP or the printer. This performs the feature of identifying if the print job held in the memory has an expiration date, or is time sensitive. If the print job is time sensitive, or designated by the job retention option as time sensitive, and has been detected to be stored in the respective storage device, which are all considered as triggering events, the date tracker can determine if the print job is expired or not. Once the print job has reached or exceeded the expiration date, the print job is deleted from the storage device of the printer or MFP. Although a recovery feature is not specifically disclosed, the features of the recovery feature are performed; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032])**; and

wherein the recovery feature is operable to determine if the print job has expired by identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])** and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])**.

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 fails to specifically teach wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the stored print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the stored print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. The combination of Bhatti '404 with the features of Garcia '464 and Schroath '995 performs the claim feature; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076])**,

identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an**

example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the system of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the combination of the device of Bhatti '404, , in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 and Garcia '464 identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction and wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the memory once the malfunction is detected.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Kidani '192. Kidani '192 discloses identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani, the reference discloses identifying the time elapsed after an error occurs within the print system. The system checks to see if this elapsed time exceeds a timeout value; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)** and

wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the memory once the malfunction is detected **(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani '192, the reference discloses identifying the time elapsed after an error occurs within the print system. The system checks to see if this elapsed time exceeds a timeout value that is set in the system. The timeout value set can be considered analogous to the expiration data since it is how long the data is to be held in the printing system for printing until it is cancelled once an error has been detected; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)**.

Therefore, in view of Kidani '192, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the features of identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction and wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the memory once the malfunction is detected, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, as modified by the features of Garcia '464, in order to prevent stagnation of a succeeding job in the printing system (as stated in Kidani '192 col. 2, ll. 14-18).

Re claim 43: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs, comprising:

a memory for storing a print job **(i.e. the printer has a storage device that is used for storing print jobs sent to the printer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

a print engine capable of printing information on print media **(i.e. in all printers, there are printer engines that are used to print information on print media. It is understood that since Bhatti '404 uses a printer in the system, it also has a print engine capable of printing information; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

a memory manager capable of storing the print job in the memory, routing the print job from the memory to the print engine, and purging the print job from the memory **(i.e. in the system, the printer is able to store a print job in the storage device in the printer or MFP, the printer is also able to route a print job on the memory to the printer engine of the printer for printing, since an electronic document that is stored can be reviewed at a user interface on the printer and printed in hard copy form. Also, since the printer is able to have a date tracker on the device, the printer is able to delete print jobs from the memory once the expiration date of a print job is reached or exceeded by the system. Although a memory manger is not specifically disclosed, the features of the memory manager are performed by the invention; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0002]-[0007] and [0019]-[0028])**; and

a recovery feature capable of identifying whether the print job held in the memory is time sensitive, and, if time sensitive, instructing the memory manager to purge the print job from the memory if the time sensitive print job expires before the malfunction is remedied **(i.e. in the system, the determination of the print job being designated**

by the job retention option, is performed by the date tracker used on the MFP or the printer. This performs the feature of identifying if the print job held in the memory has an expiration date, or is time sensitive. If the print job is time sensitive, or designated by the job retention option, and has been detected to be stored in the respective storage device, considered as a triggering event, the date tracker can determine if the print job is expired or not. Once the print job has reached or exceeded the expiration date, the print job is deleted from the storage device of the printer or MFP. Although a recovery feature is not specifically disclosed, the features of the recovery feature are all performed; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]),

wherein the recovery feature is operable to determine if the print job has expired by identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])** and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job **(i.e. the date tracker is used to determine if the identified elapsed time that is updated in the date tracker (34) has reached a duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and set in figure 3. If the current time has met the criteria of the expiration data, or data, then the print job is purged from the system; paragraphs [0022]-[0027])**.

However, the combination of Bhatti ‘404 fails to specifically teach identifying a printer malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the stored print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses identifying a printer malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the stored print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. The combination of Bhatti '404 with the features of Garcia '464 and Schroath '995 performs the claim feature; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076]),** and

identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia ‘464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the**

detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the system of identifying a printer malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer incorporated in the combination of the device of Bhatti '404, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 and Garcia '464 identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction and wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the memory once the malfunction is detected.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Kidani '192. Kidani '192 discloses identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani, the reference discloses identifying the time elapsed after an error occurs within the print system. The system checks to see if this elapsed time exceeds a timeout value; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)** and

wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the memory once the malfunction is detected **(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani '192, the reference discloses identifying the time elapsed after an error occurs within the print system. The system checks to see if this elapsed time exceeds a timeout value that is set in the system. The timeout value set can be considered analogous to the expiration data since it is how long the data is to be held in the printing system for printing until it is cancelled once an error has been detected; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)**.

Therefore, in view of Kidani '192, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the features of identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction and wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the memory once the malfunction is detected, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, as modified by the features of Garcia '464, in order to prevent stagnation of a succeeding job in the printing system (as stated in Kidani '192 col. 2, ll. 14-18).

Re claim 44: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs, comprising:

means for presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data **(i.e. the**

MFP (14) is presented with the user interface that gives the user the option to designate a job with the job retention option. This option is used to designate when a print job should be deleted from the storage device the job is held, which is considered as designating a print job to be time sensitive. The job retention option sets or specifies an expiration date for the print job, which is considered as expiration data; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]); and

means for designating the print job as time sensitive and including expiration data with the print job if so selected through the interface **(i.e. if the option of job retention is selected, the user also designates the actual expiration date for the print job. Once the expiration date is set, this is sent with the print job to the storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**

wherein the expiration date indicates a duration for holding the print job in a memory **(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the printer memory. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]),** the time sensitive designation indicating that the print job is to be purged from the memory upon identifying that a time elapsed exceeds the duration included in the expiration data **(i.e. in the system, when the determination, or detection, is made by the date tracker that a print job has expired due to the expiration date, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the**

print job was being held. The feature of above is performed by first designating the job retention option in order to set the print job as time sensitive in figure 3 (see element 30). This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach means for receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document; means for translating the instructions into a print job; following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying that a time elapsed following detection of the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses means for receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document **(i.e. the reference of Garcia discloses a sender subsystem that is installed on a job sender's computer. The printer driver installed on the computer is able to be selected for printing a document; see fig 1; paragraphs [0022]-[0031]);**

means for translating the instructions into a print job **(i.e. the instructions received from the application on the computer are translated into a format to generate print files for a print job; see fig. 1; paragraphs [0022]-[0034]);**

following a detection of a malfunction **(i.e. once the print job is detected to be in an error state (see step 78 in figure 3(b)), the T1 time in the system is still being measured to see if print job expiration is about to occur. Once in error state, the system's receiver is placed back at step 46 is figure 3(a), where the receiver has**

to accept the print job again or, in some manner, fix the error. During this process, the T1 is still being measured and the system can reach the threshold of the T1 counter after the error has been found in the system. Therefore, with the above situation, the feature of purging a print job following a detection of a malfunction is performed; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0076]) that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. The combination of Bhatti '404 with the features of Garcia '464 and Schroath '995 performs the claim feature; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076]),**

identifying that a time elapsed from detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the**

detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method steps of means for receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document, means for translating the instructions into a print job, following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and identifying that a time elapsed following detection of the malfunction, incorporated in the combination of the device of Bhatti '404, , in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 and Garcia fails to specifically teach identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction and if the malfunction is not remedied within the duration.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Kidani '192. Kidani '192 discloses identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction **(i.e. the system of Kidani is similar to the systems of Bhatti and Garcia in the manner in which all system involve printing a print job that is input into the system (same field of endeavor). However, in Kidani, the reference discloses identifying the time elapsed after an error occurs within the print system. The**

system checks to see if this elapsed time exceeds a timeout value; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54) and

if the malfunction is not remedied within the duration **(i.e. in the system, if the error regarding a print job has not been addressed during a certain timeout period, the user is notified that their print job has been cancelled from the printing system for printing in order to perform other jobs that are stored on the printer's memory can be executed; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54)**.

Therefore, in view of Kidani '192, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the features of identifying a time elapsed as measured from the detection of the malfunction and if the malfunction is not remedied within the duration, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, as modified by the features of Garcia '464, in order to prevent stagnation of a succeeding job in the printing system (as stated in Kidani '192 col. 2, ll. 14-18).

Re claim 45: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs, comprising:

means for storing the print job in memory **(i.e. the printer has a storage device that is used for storing print jobs sent to the printer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**;

means for identifying a time elapsed **(i.e. Bhatti '404 discloses having the date tracker (34) determine if a print job has expired through comparing the current date to the expiration data input into the system regarding a print job. The**

system allows for the expiration date to be obtained when comparing this information to the current time in the system is performed by the date tracker (34); see fig. 3; paragraphs [0022]-[0027]);

means for comparing the identified elapsed time with a duration indicated by expiration data included with the print job to determine if the print job has expired **(i.e. in the system of Bhatti '404, the user has the option to designate a print job to have an expiration date. If the user designates the print job's expiration date as never, then the print job is considered not to be designated as time sensitive, but if a default expiration date is chosen, which is 30, 60, 90 or 180 days, then the print job is considered to be time sensitive. Also, when looking at the user interface screen, there are known job storage options available, along with the job retention option that is considered as the time sensitive option. If the job retention option is not selected, the print job is not designated as time sensitive. With the software used to provide this option, the determination is made whether or not the job retention option is selected and the date tracker (34) used in the system can be implemented on all the business machines involved in the process in order to determine if a job retention expiration date has expired. Also, the event tracker constantly compares the current time in the system to the expiration date set for a stored job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]); and**

means for determining, if the stored print job has expired **(i.e. using the date tracker, the system determines if the print job is expire be utilizing the job**

retention expiration date set. This is performed in figure 2; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]); and

means for purging the print job, from memory, if the print job has expired **(i.e. the system automatically deletes the stored print job if the expiration date for the print job is met or exceeded by the current time read by the date tracker; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028])**.

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 fails to specifically teach a malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the stored print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and a means for identifying a time elapsed since the malfunction was identified.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Garcia '464. Garcia '464 discloses means for identifying a printer malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the stored print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer **(i.e. in the system, the error that occurs prevents the print job from being delivered to the receiving device or printer and it prevents the printing of the print job by the printer at the receiving device. In the system of Garcia, the system contains a means for identifying a printer malfunction that prevents the job from being delivered or printed at a printer. The combination of Bhatti '404 with the features of Garcia '464 performs the claim feature; see figs. 3; paragraphs [0069]-[0076]),** and

means for identifying a time elapsed since the malfunction was identified **(i.e. the system of Garcia is similar to the system of Bhatti since both involve network printing (same field of endeavor). Both also involve identifying an expiration**

period associated with a print job. However, Garcia '464 discloses identifying the time T1 after an error occurs in the printing system. If an error occurs in the system (shown in step 92 in figure 3(b)), then the printing system operates back at step 46 when the e-receiver accepts the print job (see paragraph [0075]). Once the system goes back to this point, the time period of T1 is still being measured against the current time in processing the current job. Therefore, the system is identifying the time elapsed and constantly comparing this time to T1. This is an example of the claimed feature of identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction. With the features of Garcia '464 combined with the features of Bhatti '404, the above features are performed; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0059]-[0077]).

Therefore, in view of Garcia '464, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the system a means for identifying a printer malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and means for identifying a time elapsed since the malfunction was identified, incorporated in the combination of the device of Bhatti '404, in order to delete a job from storage once a threshold of a time period is exceeded (as stated in Garcia '464 paragraph [0065]).

However, the combination of Bhatti '404 and Garcia fails to specifically teach if the malfunction has not been remedied within the duration.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Kidani '192. Kidani '192 discloses if the malfunction has not been remedied within the duration **(i.e. in the**

system, if the error regarding a print job has not been addressed during a certain timeout period, the user is notified that their print job has been cancelled from the printing system for printing in order to perform other jobs that are stored on the printer's memory can be executed; see col. 12, ll. 53-col. 14, ll. 54).

Therefore, in view of Kidani '192, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the features of if the malfunction has not been remedied within the duration, incorporated in the device of Bhatti '404, as modified by the features of Garcia '464, in order to prevent stagnation of a succeeding job in the printing system (as stated in Kidani '192 col. 2, ll. 14-18).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

6. Matias (USP 5528374) discloses a networked reproduction apparatus with security feature (see Background Art for disclosure of claim features).

7. Nezu (USP 5970228) discloses a method of maintaining security in a common output means and system for maintaining security.

8. Schroath '995 (US Pub 2003/0105995) discloses a system for detecting the amount of errors a printer may have logged and determine if a job is the cause of the error. The job may be deleted from memory.

9. Sesek '864 (Us Pub 2002/0171864) discloses holding a job in a primary list queue and purging a job from this queue and placing it into another queue if a time period is elapsed because of a printer error during this job (see paragraph [0050]).

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHAD DICKERSON whose telephone number is (571)270-1351. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00pm Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler Haskins can be reached on (571) 272-7406. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/C. D./
/Chad Dickerson/
Examiner, Art Unit 2625

/Twyler L. Haskins/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625